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Right-Wing Groups Gain in Drawing Financial Aid

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LOS ANGELES, June 25—

Financial support of the nation's rightwing continues to grow, with a healthy portion of the dollars coming from big business.

A case to be heard in Superior Court of Los Angeles County Monday illuminates the wide-ranging support some corporation executives give to the dissemination of ultraconservative political and economic views.

Three conservatives are accused of conspiracy to libel Senator Thomas H. Kuchel, a moderate Republican who has been an outspoken foe of extremists.

One of the defendants is John F. Fergus, until recently a public relations man here for the Schick Safety Razor Company and Eversharp, Inc.

The president and chief executive officer of Eversharp and Schick, a division of Eversharp, is Patrick J. Frawley Jr. He is also chairman of the board of Eversharp and of Technicolor, Inc.

Hired to Make Speeches

Mr. Frawley testified before the grand jury that indicated Mr. Fergus had hired him in 1962 "to make speeches on free enterprise and against Communism." In addition, he said, Schick has spent hundreds of thousands of dollars in recent years to sponsor right-wing radio and television programs and to advertise in ultraconservative magazines. These expenditures are continuing.

An exhaustive study by Group Research, Inc., using the public portions of reports by tax-exempt groups to the Internal Revenue Service and other data, produced an estimate that conservative organizations, from the John Birch Society to the National Defense Committee of the Daughters of the American Revolution, spent \$30 million in 1963.

This represented a growth of 17 per cent in income over the previous year, and the continuation of a seven-year trend.

Officials of the Washington research organization which often surveys right-wing activities, said this week that figures available so far for 1964 indicated the trend was continuing.

Birch Income Doubled

The Birch Society, for example, doubled its income last year, from \$1.6 million in 1963 to \$3.2 million in 1964. It is now conducting an intensive fund-raising drive for next year's elections.

Christian Crusade, the Tulsa-based anti-Communist organization of the Evangelist, Billy James Hargis, advanced last year to \$834,800 from an income of \$677,200 in 1963.



Patrick J. Frawley Jr. testified in a libel case against John F. Fergus.

The Christian Anti-Communism Crusade of the Australian physician, Dr. Fred C. Schwarz, had an income last year of \$612,100, compared with \$573,800 in 1963.

Americans for Constitutional Action, which rates Congressmen according to their degree of conservatism, reported income of \$187,400, compared with \$84,900 a year earlier.

This year, two new groups with enough fund-raising potential to worry the Republican party have entered the picture.

The American Conservative Union expects to have an operating bankroll of \$400,000 soon. It said this week it had half of it in hand.

\$2 Million Is Sought

The Free Society Association, flying the colors of Barry Goldwater, is seeking \$2 million to begin its "educational" activities.

If big business shows interest in these newest endeavors and continues the trend of mounting donations elsewhere in the right-wing spectrum, the impact could be felt at state, local and national levels in the off-year elections in 1966.

Group Research said, however, that not all the \$30 million reported in its study came from a few billionaires or businessmen: Much of it—there is no way of telling just how much—comes in dimes and dollars from housewives and men of modest means.

The study, however, shows a pattern of consistent contributions in recent years from a cluster of wealthy industrial families, more and more of whom are setting up foundations as tax-exempt arms of

their business for disbursing grants.

A similar study by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, published last fall, said these right-wing benefactors now included more than 100 business concerns, more than 70 foundations and about 250 individuals.

Pattern Is Varied

Many scatter largesse among a number of ultraconservative groups. Others pick a favorite or two and stick with them from year to year.

Names that recur frequently in the Group Research study include Milliken, Pew, Hunt, Crail, Frawley, Gray and Simes.

Olive Simes and Hope Gray are principals of the Penthouse Trust in Boston and substantial supporters of the Birch Society.

Robert Milliken heads the Deering Milliken textile concern. The Deering Milliken Foundation has given the ultraconservative Freedom School in Colorado as much as \$100,000 at a time. The company has sent groups of its executives there for indoctrination in economic theory.

J. Howard Pew, chairman of the Sun Oil Company, has contributed \$1 million to the Christian Freedom Foundation, which calls urban renewal "Marxism" and has proposed that Communist nations "be driven from the U.N." Mr. Pew is on the editorial advisory committee of American Opinion, the Birch Society magazine, and is a stockholder in its publisher, Robert Welch, Inc.

H. L. Hunt, the Texas oil billionaire, has given \$3 million to Life Line and its predecessor in right-wing radio programs, Facts Forum.

Joe Crail is president of the Coast Federal Savings and Loan Association here, which operates a Free Enterprise Bureau budgeted at a quarter of a million dollars a year. Its purpose is "to preserve a climate of economic opinion favorable to Americanism."

Patrick Frawley contributes to the right-wing movement in many ways. He told the grand jury he had instructed Mr. Fergus, in his speeches, to "stick to the approach made by Dr. Fred Schwarz."

Mr. Frawley has given Dr. Schwarz's Christian Anti-Communist Crusade, which has headquarters in Long Beach, Calif., up to \$5,000 at a time. He has served on steering committees for its "schools of anti-Communism" around the country and has sponsored television programs of rallies costing up to \$50,000.

Robert H. W. Welch Jr., founder of the Birch Society, has praised the Schwarz organization for doing "a superb job" of anti-Communist "education."

Schick Ads Cited

Last fall, Schick took large advertisements in major newspapers across the country to present a Schwarz message saying that both China and the existence "as a likely method for destroying America."

The advertisements solicited orders for a book that would outline to any citizen of the United States "the Communist threat to my American heritage."

It also praised the ultraconservative Cardinal Mindszenty Foundation of St. Louis, often described as a Roman Catholic offshoot of the Protestant-led Christian Anti-Communism League.

Mr. Frawley has given the foundation as much as \$10,000 at a time. Last year he and Father Richard Ginder, former member of the Birch Society's national council, received "Paul Revere" awards from the foundation.

John Fred Schlafly Jr., a Schwarz backer, serves on the board of directors of both the foundation and Eversharp. His wife, Phyllis, is research director of the foundation and author of the right-wing paperback "A Choice Not an Echo," which has been given credit for helping to bring the Republican Presidential nomination to Mr. Goldwater last year.

Mr. Frawley regularly supports right-wing publications by advertising in them. For example the qualities of Schick razors are explained in many issues of The Wanderer, which is published in St. Paul, and in William S. Buckley's National Review.

The Los Angeles industrialist was a member of the Committee for the Monroe Doctrine, organized in 1963 by a former Communist, Marvin Liebman of New York, to protest the "dangerous concessions being offered by President Kennedy to Khrushchev concerning the Cuban situation."

He has contributed to Americans for Constitutional Action, whose scorecard on the relative conservatism of Congressmen was used by then Maj. Gen. Edwin A. Walker in his "Pro-Blue" troop indoctrination program. The right-wing Americanism Educational League gave Mr. Frawley its "American of the Year" award in 1963.

Last month, Schick sponsored an hour-long color telecast of "Freedom Foundation's first annual patriotic ball" in Beverly Hills. Five nights a week since last Sept. 28, radio listeners throughout the country have been offered a five-minute program called "Washington Report."

Company Pays Cost

The program, now on 900 stations, is produced by the American Security Council. Schick

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pays the production costs of \$20,000 a month. The program is scheduled, for the time being, to continue indefinitely.

One of the "Washington Report" programs heard here this week was an attack by former Representative Walter H. Judd of Minnesota on campus teachers and trade with Communists.

The council was formed a decade ago to serve industry by screening prospective employees for patriotism and by keeping members informed of cold war developments.